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FLAMES FIGHT ONE OUT
IGINLA AND CO. BEAT DALLAS 3-2 {page 23}

TALKING HEATH
WILLIAMS OPENS UP ABOUT HER GRIEF {page 21}

CALGARY metro®
Weekend, December 24-25, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Huff. Puff

▶ Serial marathoner Martin Parnell.

JAMES PATON/FOR METRO

Only 755 more to go until 1,000

Martin Parnell has been running all year long, making tracks in 245 marathons, with the plan to hit 250 by the end of the year. Story, page 4.

Local news

Farmers' market packs up

Local bazaar set to leave Currie Barracks for new $5.5M location off Blackfoot Trail
Some vendors won't be making the move {page 3}

Baldwin sues Costner

That's Stephen and Kevin, and no, this is not a movie {page 10}

Happy holidays

Watch for our special Boxing Day edition Sunday. Metro will be back on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

Shocker to tune of $900-plus

Resident's Enmax bill is hundreds of dollars higher than usual
Utilities provider blames technical error
Customer calls handling of situation 'quite ridiculous'

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Angie Macdonald was left in a state of shock after opening her monthly statement from Enmax earlier this week.

It specified that a payment of $923.43 was owed by Jan. 4 unless alternative payment arrangements were made.

Accompanying the bill was a message from the city-owned utilities provider. "Enclosed is an invoice that may be higher than you expected due to a technical error that caused a delay in processing of services on your account," it reads.

According to her statement, Macdonald paid $124.43 to Enmax for November.

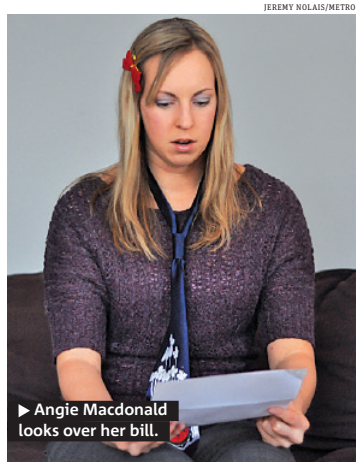
"They decided right now that they haven't been charging us enough for the past year and so they sent us a list with all of the past charges," Macdonald said.

Enmax spokesperson Doris Kaufmann said Macdonald was not contacted prior to receiving her bill and apologized on the company's behalf. She said Enmax now intends to make penalty-free arrangements with the customer.

"It should be clarified that what happened on Ms. Macdonald's account was rare, and today we have automated reporting in place to identify this error. However, these reports were not in place in August of 2009, when this occurred," Kaufmann said.

When contacted by Metro, Macdonald was still consulting with her roommates as to how to proceed.

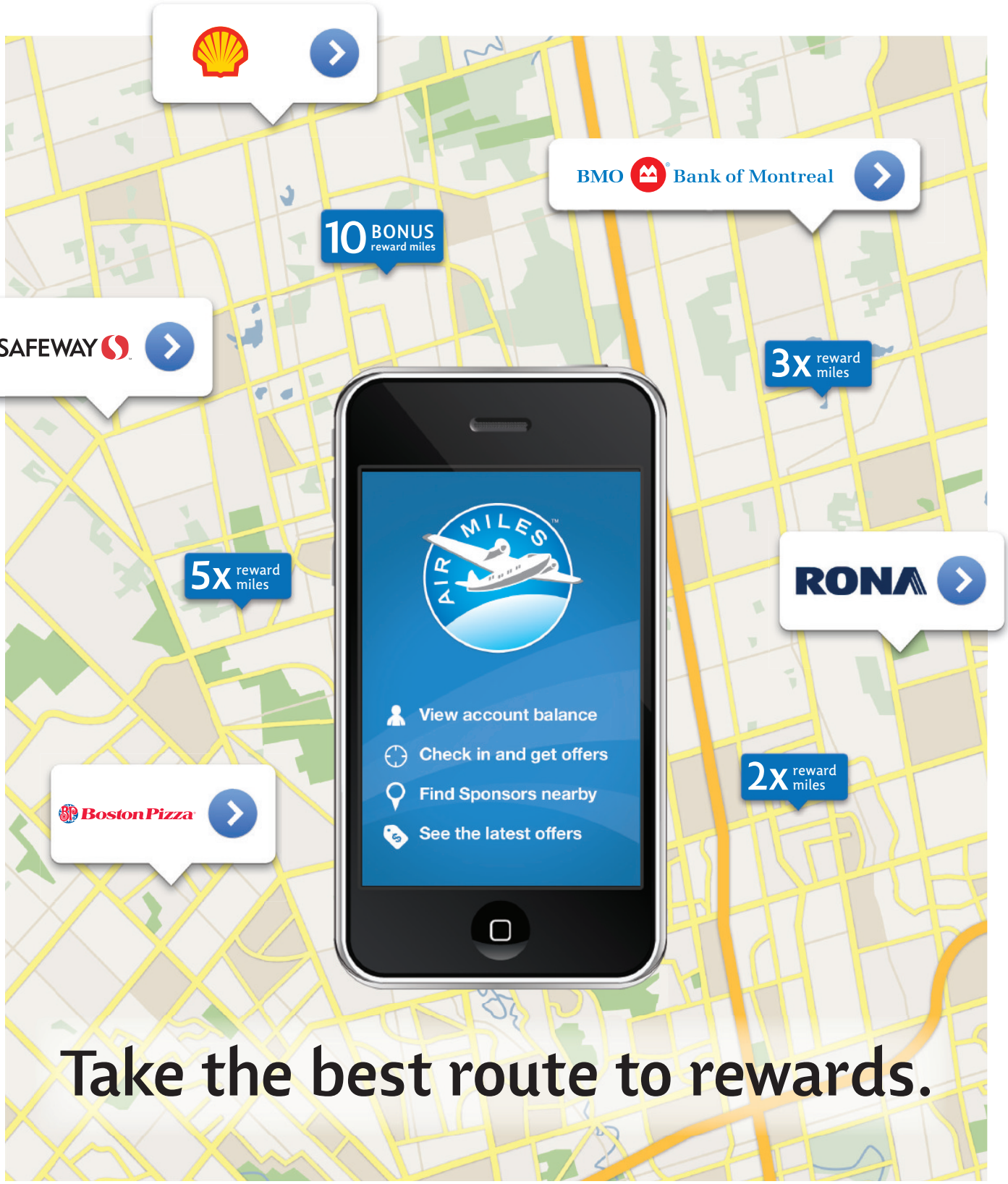
JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



▶ Angie Macdonald looks over her bill.

Background

- Enmax spokesperson Doris Kaufmann said in an emailed statement that the company set up services for Angie Macdonald in August 2009.
- When the error was discovered, Macdonald was back-billed for one year. Enmax waived the extra charges for the first three-and-a-half months, Kaufmann said.
- Extra charges on a month-to-month basis on Macdonald's bill ranged from $2.35 to $62.26.



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Memo tells EMS to respect speed limits

It appears the brakes could be put on Edmonton ambulances speeding to emergency calls, according to information obtained by Metro.

An internal memo leaked to Metro provides direction to Edmonton EMS staff, requiring them to respond to all calls within the posted speed limit.

The memo, written by Dale Weiss, director of Edmonton/North Zone Metro Operations for Alberta Health Services, is dated Dec. 22 and states that staff "are to respond within the posted speed limits, even when responding with lights and siren."

In Calgary

- Stuart Brideaux, AHS spokesperson for the Calgary/South Zone, said he had only just become aware of the document, but added it appears everything will remain "status quo" regarding ambulance service in Calgary.
- "There is no literature that proves that the potential savings of seconds in a response is beneficial over the increased risk of driving at high speeds," says a memo from Dale Weiss, director of Edmonton EMS.

The memo also includes instructions on red-light policies, asking drivers to come to a complete stop before proceeding through intersections.

Weiss receives a monthly spreadsheet of EMS vehicles that have triggered the red-light cameras in Edmonton, according to the document. In October, the document states, there were 232 occurrences of speeds as high as 109 kilometres per hour and red-light durations of 60 seconds.

Weiss states that safety is the reason for the reinforcement of expectations.

An AHS spokesperson tells a slightly different story on the adherence to speed limits by EMS personnel.

"EMS staff are encouraged to stay within the posted speed limit as much as possible," said Sheila Rougeau.

She said while the Edmonton memo was written with good intentions, emergency vehicles are in fact allowed to accelerate under certain circumstances.

HEATHER MCINTYRE
WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

Farmers' Market marks end of an era

- New facility off Blackfoot Trail will be 15,000 square feet larger
- 80% of vendors will make move

Plenty of tears were wept and hugs exchanged Thursday as the Calgary Farmers' Market closed the doors at the Currie Barracks location.

Henry Mandelbaum and his wife, Debbie Goldstein, have been operating their coffee and gelato kiosk, Tutti Frutti, since the market opened six-and-a-half years ago, and have chosen not to move to the new location.

"We came to Canada from Colombia, South America, and we had a small-business visa," Mandelbaum said. "At that time the market happened to be being planned ... We decided that this would be a good place to do our concept."

Since then, he said they have built an extremely loyal client base at the market.

New digs

- The new building cost the Farmers' Market Co-operative $5.5 million.
- 800 more parking spaces available at new facility.

Longtime patron Merle Handy said she comes to the market at least once a week from Marlborough.

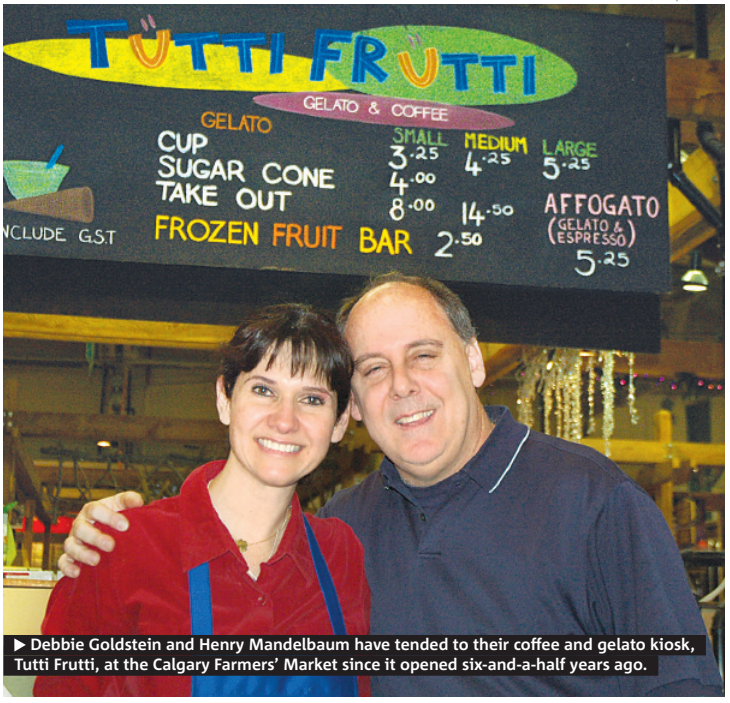
"We're going to really miss them," she said. "I love their coffee, I love their gelato and I really love the two of them."

General manager Ken Aylesworth said the last week has been bittersweet.

"It will be a wonderful sense of fulfilment that we've been able to nurture the Calgary Farmers' Market and take it out of the cradle, so to speak."

KATIE TURNER

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO



▶ Debbie Goldstein and Henry Mandelbaum have tended to their coffee and gelato kiosk, Tutti Frutti, at the Calgary Farmers' Market since it opened six-and-a-half years ago.

1 news

Buttoned-down BlackBerry prepares for an image overhaul in 2011. Scan code for the story.

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Stephen Harper praises Canada's place on the world stage in his annual holiday message. Video at metronews.ca

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SIKSIKA

Death thought to be murder

Gleichen RCMP are investigating an apparent murder on the Siksika Nation.

Responding to a call at about 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, police discovered an unconscious man. The 25-year-old was reportedly injured and never awoke.

"Judging from the injuries right at the scene, it was obvious that they were not self-inflicted," RCMP Sgt. Patrick Webb said.

An autopsy was planned in Calgary yesterday to determine the cause of death. RCMP have yet to release the victim's name pending notification of next of kin.

The Siksika Nation is located approximately 90 kilometres east of Calgary.

METRO

Charges in taxi hijacking

Charges have been laid in an alleged taxi hijacking on Calgary's city limits on Wednesday. Peter Joseph Neidig faces five charges, including armed robbery and aggravated assault. RCMP Sgt. Patrick Webb said police continue to hunt for a second suspect and do know the person's identity. METRO

Man escapes, but cat killed

Calgary fire crews found a deceased cat while battling a house fire in the city's southwest yesterday.

A male resident of the house in the 2000 block of 25th Avenue SW managed to escape, said Calgary fire spokesperson Brian McAsey. Initial damages are estimated at $60,000.

METRO

Marathon man ready for final run

Martin Parnell will run his 250th marathon on Dec. 31 Was inspired to raise funds for Right to Play after 10,000-km bike trip across Africa

KATIE TURNER
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

By the time the year is over, Martin Parnell will have ran 10,550 kilometres — nearly the equivalent of running across Canada and back.

The 54-year-old Cochrane man started Marathon Quest 250 on Jan. 1 in an effort to raise $250,000 for Right to Play, an organization that develops sport programs for kids around the world.

"Originally, I thought of doing 365 marathons, but my wife said, 'no go see a local doctor,'" explained Parnell. After consulting with the doctor, Parnell decided to run five days a week with a two day break and an additional 12 spare days off.

▶ Martin Parnell

Just two months in, Parnell injured his leg, leaving him unable to run for two weeks.

"I couldn't even think ahead to the next marathon," he said. "It's just too big."

Parnell said once he hit race 200, the goal seemed feasible.

"As I've knocked them off, I've slowly got a bit more confident and felt a bit better."

Today will mark race 245 for Parnell, leaving only five more until the finish line.

"To complete it will be a big relief."

Only 7 years ago

- To date, Parnell has raised $174,685.
- He has visited 60 schools and run with more than 12,000 kids.
- Parnell started running only seven years ago.
- Donations can be made on Parnell's website at marathonquest250.com.

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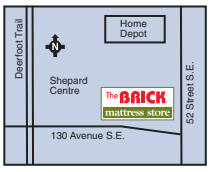

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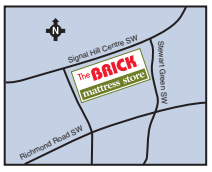

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2010 WAS A PUZZLE OF POLITICAL FOLLY

Opinion

DJ KELLY
THE SCRUTINEER, WITH ANALYSIS OF CIVIC ISSUES IN THE CITY OF CALGARY

With the arrival of the Christmas and holiday break we're given a chance to reflect on the past year to see how we got to where we are.

As 2010 comes to a close, today and Sunday I present some of the great things we witnessed this year at city hall. I'll also count down my choices for biggest political mistakes in the past 12 months.

Mayor Dave Bronconnier started the craziness that would be 2010 when, on February 23 he announced he would not be seeking a fourth term as mayor. After a pretty stable nine year reign, things were about to change. Some thought for better, some feared for worse. Bronconnier is a top city newsmaker for his nine years of service as mayor, and for starting the ball rolling on what would be one of the most unpredictable years in Calgary city hall history.

Once Bronconnier made his announcement, Ric McIver, the nine-year alderman who became so good at opposing Bronconnier he earned the nickname Dr. No, immediately became the front runner in the race to replace him. Even before Bronconnier's declaration, McIver was rumoured to have decided to take a chance at the mayor's seat. He spent almost all of 2010 saying "I have no announcement to make today" when asked if he was going to run. It would take him until April 22 to make it official.

McIver's journey is big news this year because the mayor's chair was his to lose. And lose it he did. His campaign was solid and steady, never wavering. Until it was too late. His coronation was a forgone conclusion as late as three months before the election, but his team's stubbornness to react to what all Calgarians were noticing — the rise of Naheed Nenshi in the polls — was his eventual undoing. This ranks at number 4 on my list of city hall mistakes for 2010.

The third biggest city hall political mistake for 2010 has to be the event that bolstered the Nenshi campaign and vaulted him into contention. On Sept. 23 Police Chief Rick Hanson responded to questions from Nenshi directed at leading candidate McIver hitting him for not asking tougher questions when approving the 2011 Calgary police budget. Hanson tread where few civil servants dare by calling the math behind Nenshi's questions "irresponsible." Calgarians and the media immediately took notice of what had been a Nenshi release getting little traction until then, saying "yeah, why didn't McIver ask tougher questions?" Suddenly Nenshi and the spars with McIver and Hanson were in the headlines for an entire week at a critical time during the campaign. Nenshi could now legitimately claim he was part of a three-way race.

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No appeal in twin sex assault case

Court agrees woman did not consent to sex with boyfriend's identical twin brother

A sexual assault case in which the victim thought she was having sex with a man's identical twin brother will not be heard by Canada's highest court.

The Supreme Court of Canada has denied the man, who cannot be named, leave to appeal his conviction.

After a party one night in September 2006 the woman, who had consumed most of a bottle of wine, went to sleep in the bed of a man with whom she had a consensual sexual relationship.

Appeals

The man appealed his sex assault conviction, saying the trial judge was wrong in finding the mistaken identity meant the woman didn't consent to sex.

▶ **Appeal declined** The Court of Appeal for Ontario upheld his conviction earlier this year and yesterday the Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear his appeal of that decision.

Later, she awoke to someone having sex with her and assumed it was the man with whom she had a relationship.

She called out the man's name several times and when he said nothing throughout the act she turned on the light, only to discover it was the man's twin brother.

In the Ontario Appeal Court decision in June, the panel of judges wrote that the woman did not agree to sexual intercourse with anyone other than the man with whom she had a relationship.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Romania. Jumper

▶ The man was distraught that budget cuts had reduced benefits for his autistic teenage son.

BOGDAN STAMATIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Parliament interrupted

Adrian Sobaru throws himself from a balcony in Romania's parliament yesterday, just as the prime minister began to speak before a no-confidence vote. Sobaru suffered fractures to his face, and other non-life-threatening injuries, according to a hospital official. As emergency workers took him out on a stretcher, he shouted "Freedom!"

Supreme Court will hear music previews case

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case involving whether previews of music downloaded from the Internet should be subject to royalties. The Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada is suing Bell Canada, Rogers and other communications companies over copyright infringement. After losing the rights to royalties in 2007, the society took its case to the Federal Court of Appeal, which refused to hear it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

30

In October 2007, the Copyright Board of Canada ruled that 30-second previews downloaded from the Internet don't infringe copyright and aren't subject to royalties.

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THE ROYAL MINT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The "warts and all" portrait of William and Kate has drawn the ire of royalty buffs.

Royal coins: An inconvenient truth

Commemorative coins derided for likeness of royal couple ◐ William looks more like Al Gore, critics say

That's Kate Middleton? Britain's Royal Mint on Thursday released a commemorative coin featuring portraits of Prince William and his bride-to-be, but critics say the results are far from lifelike.

Images of the couple on the memento bear little resemblance to either the prince or his betrothed. Middleton, 28, appears plump in the face and lips and has bags under her eyes, while some critics say William looks more like former U.S. vice-president Al Gore.

The £5 ($7.75) coin — which costs £9.99 ($15.50) to buy — marks the Nov. 16 engagement of the second-in-line to the British throne. The couple will marry on April 29.

"This coin is of historical importance, so to get it so wrong seems ridiculous," Ingrid Seward of Majesty magazine told Britain's Sky News.

The Royal Mint said the coin was designed by its in-house engraving team and both the Queen and Prince William had given their consent to the design. Staff used photos of the couple to produce the images, it said in a statement.

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Baldwin bamboozled?

Stephen Baldwin sues fellow actor Kevin Costner over investment in oil-spill device Was used by BP in trying to clean up Gulf of Mexico spill

A federal lawsuit filed in New Orleans yesterday by Stephen Baldwin and a friend claims Kevin Costner and a business partner duped them out of their shares of an $18-million deal for BP to purchase centrifuges from a company they formed after the April 20 spill.

BP ordered 32 of the centrifuges, which separate oil from water, and deployed a few of the devices on a barge in June. BP capped the well in July and kept more oil from leaking until the seafloor gusher was permanently sealed in September.

Stephen Baldwin and his friend Spyridon Contogouris owned shares in Ocean Therapy Solutions, the company that sold the centrifuges to BP.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHERYL GERBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ BP COO Doug Suttles and Kevin Costner announce the vessel to be deployed carrying the centrifuge system to separate oil and water in Port Fourchon, La., on July 8.

'Schemed'

- Stephen Baldwin and Spyridon Contogouris claim they were deliberately excluded from a June 8 meeting between Costner, his business partner and BP executive Doug Suttles. At the meeting, the suit says, Suttles agreed to make an $18-million deposit on a $52-million order for the 32 devices.
- Baldwin and Contogouris say they didn't know about the deal when, three days later, they agreed to sell their shares of the company for $1.4 million and $500,000 respectively.
- Baldwin and Contogouris say they were entitled to shares of BP's deposit. Their suit claims Costner and Smith "schemed" to use money from BP's deposit to buy their shares in the company.

News in brief

▶ Jim Flaherty

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Home-care plan too costly?

OTTAWA. The federal government has looked into using the tax system to help Canadians take time off work to care for elderly or sick family members, but the high cost may be too much of a barrier this year, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty says. Flaherty didn't say he will propose measures in the next federal budget, but confirmed he has looked into the possibility and costs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Violence won't deter tourists

CANCUN. Mexico is experiencing its bloodiest year of drug violence yet, but that's not stopping domestic and international vacationers from flocking to Cancun. The resort city on the Mexican Caribbean coast, the Riviera Maya coastline below it and the Pacific coast resort of Puerto Vallarta will be named top destinations this year by Orbitz travel website, based on flights and hotel bookings, said spokeswoman Marita Hudson Thomas. Tourism revenue is up 7.1 per cent in the first 10 months of 2010, compared to the same months of 2009.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reactor shut for inspection

MAINTENANCE. The troubled Chalk River nuclear reactor that produces medical isotopes will be shut down for 33 days in May to perform routine maintenance and an inspection of the reactor. The Chalk River National Research Universal reactor restarted producing isotopes in August after it was shut down for more than a year because of a pinhole-size radioactive water leak.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Theft rings targeted

DURHAM. A six-month investigation into property crime has resulted in 50 arrests and more than 500 charges, police in Durham Region say. They say tens of thousands of dollars worth of stolen property and valuable metals were recovered as part of Project Arrowhead. The probe began in June and targeted numerous organized theft rings operating in the area, including the theft of scrap metal from industrial yards and businesses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Overheated housing sector set to cool in '11

'We anticipate a fairly lacklustre year for residential housing, with modestly higher sales volumes': Expert

Canada's housing market was one of the best performers — and one of the most volatile — among advanced countries in 2010, but appears poised for a lacklustre turn next year, Scotia Economics says.

This year, Canada was among six of 12 countries studied that saw home prices increase, according to the bank's year-end Globe Real Estate Trends report issued Thursday. Other countries that saw price advances included Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Sweden and Switzerland.

Prices in the U.S. and Germany were flat, and those in Ireland, Italy, Japan and Spain fell.

In Canada, an unusually active winter and spring — prompted by pent-up demand coming out of the recession, along with expectations of rising interest rates and higher taxes being introduced in two provinces — gave way to an unusually soft summer.

Sales returned to a more typical, sustainable level in the fall.

Adrienne Warren, senior economist at Scotia Economics, predicts a more subdued Canadian market in 2011 as interest rates remain near historic lows, but in a climate of global economic uncertainty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing stalls

- An International Monetary Fund report said Canada's overheated housing market combined with record levels of consumer debt are risks that could curtail future economic growth.
- It said Canada's housing sector has reached its peak and may be due for a correction, although a collapse is unlikely.
- The Canadian Real Estate Association has projected a 4.9 per cent slide in sales this year and a nine per cent decline next year.

Last minute. Flurry

▶ Maura Webster of Marlborough, Mass., tries to catch a snowflake on her tongue after Christmas shopping with her daughter Emma, 4, at Shopper's World in Framingham, Mass.

BILL GREENE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bingeing on snow and shopping

In many parts of the world, the holiday shopping season has been shortened by nasty weather that clogged traffic and delayed deliveries. For scores of retailers, hopes of rescuing the retail season rest on last-minute shoppers.

Skype back after outage

OFFLINE. Internet calling and messaging service Skype SA mostly recovered Thursday from an outage caused by an undisclosed glitch, but problems lingered for its worldwide user base.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 4 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
– 9.5 (13,371.20)	+ 0.52¢ (99.12¢ US)	+ 1.03¢ US ($91.51 US)	$4.083 (– 6.9¢) Gold contracts $1,380.50 (– $6.90)

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CONTRIBUTED

▶ Amanda Perrin

5 MINUTES WITH: AMANDA PERRIN

Amanda Perrin is an up-and-coming Calgary comedian who recently competed in the Just For Laughs Festival in Calgary. If chosen, she could be heading to Montreal for the Homegrown Competition this summer.

When did you start doing stand-up?
I've been doing stand-up for over three years and I've been doing improv since high school.
What made you want to get into comedy?
I actually started working at a comedy club when I was 18 and I saw a lot of terrible comedians and I thought, I could probably do that better.
So, you were recently showcased in the Just For Laughs festival in Calgary.
Basically, what it was was a bunch of Calgary comedians were on a showcase and the talent co-ordinator from Just For Laughs came down and she picks someone from each city to go to the festival next year.
What was it like to perform in that festival amongst other local comedians?
It's always so fun. Everyone is so excited. You would think there would be a lot of tension with comedians competing against each other but there's just a lot of excited energy.
What would it mean for you to go to Montreal to compete?
Oh my God, I would die. So many of my favourite comedians have performed at Just For Laughs and it would be such an honour just to be a part of that.
What's the stupidest thing you've ever done or said to get a laugh?
I have a web series called Amanda Tastes Things and it's basically just me tasting awful things. There's no real joke writing in it. It's really awful and probably one of the worst things I've done.
What's the worst thing you've tasted?
I would say the wet cat food because I hadn't opened the can before I actually tasted it or looked at it and then it had like green chunks in it. And the smell was just awful.
Are there any shows that you've done that stand out in your mind?
I just recently opened for Debra DiGiovanni from Video On Trial and in October I went to Toronto for the Canadian Comedy Awards.
So what's next?
I would love to be on SNL, that's kind of a dream of mine, and everyone else's dream it seems like, so no pressure.

KATIE TURNER

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Up there Down Under

Worth mentioning

Mysterious lights in the sky and even a flying saucer are among the reported UFO sightings detailed in classified documents released by New Zealand's military this week.

The thousands of documents cover more than 50 years of New Zealanders' reports of encounters with unidentified flying objects.

Most files suggest natural explanations for the sightings, including meteors and reflections off boat lights.

Among the reports was one from a man who wrote a letter in 1955 to inform authorities he had seen flying saucers, even witnessing one take off.

The files also cover the country's best-known UFO mystery in 1978 in the southern island town of Kaikoura. A cargo plane reported strange lights following it and air traffic controllers detected radar blips they could not explain.

The documents showed the government carefully took note of such reports, even if some citizens only received a polite thanks for their theories.

New Zealand's Defence Force released the files Wednesday under a freedom-of-information request.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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What's your wish for 2011?

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Metro Minute at Christmas Day skate

If you're bored waiting for that delicious Christmas Day dinner, why not lace up the skates and head down to the Bowness Lagoon.

The rink has only just opened so the ice should be in top condition. Skaters are asked to meet near the snack bar around noon and then can come and go as they please.

The concession and skate rental stand will be closed for the day, but skaters are encouraged to bring their own hot drinks and Christmas treats.

Organizers also hope to secure some firewood for the afternoon.

The Bowness Lagoon is located at 8900–48th Ave. NW.

METRO

Three days to play

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE HOLIDAY TRADITION?

Melissa Strutt
CALGARY
We go and look at the Christmas lights. We drive around for a few hours and drink hot chocolate.

Michael Cox
CALGARY
My favourite holiday tradition is visiting friends and having dinner with them.

From superheroes to animated comedy to Oscar candidates, there are lots of great movie options in the first few months of 2011 Oh, and don't forget Justin Bieber ... in 3-D

Hollywood offers plenty of winter fun

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Winter may be upon us but at least there's warmth in the cinematic fire that's stirring in 2011. With the new year kicking off everything from dramatic festival favourites (Biutiful, 02/11) to a Roman epic adventure (The Eagle, 02/11), multiplexes will be warming up in 2011. Here's Metro's look at the most promising movies to hibernate with through the chilly season:

Other notable winter titles:

- Season of the Witch (01/07)
- The Dilemma (01/14)
- Another Year (01/14)
- The Company Men (01/21)
- Casino Jack (01/28)
- The Rite (01/28)
- The Mechanic (01/28)
- Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son (02/18)
- The Adjustment Bureau (03/04)
- The Dark Fields (03/18)

Note: All release dates are subject to change and might be different in each market.

▶ The Green Hornet opens Jan. 14.

January

It all begins with Gwyneth Paltrow crooning away as a washed-up western singer in the redemptive drama **Country Strong** (01/07) and filmmaker Sofia Coppola (Lost in Translation) observing the lonelier side of being an A-list celebrity in **Somewhere** (01/07).

However, the action heats up when Seth Rogen debuts his masked crimefighter **The Green Hornet** (01/14) in a 3-D adaptation of the 1960s TV show. If critical darlings are your thing, Michelle Williams and Ryan Gosling quarrel as volatile lovers in **Blue Valentine** (01/07), while **Incendies** (01/21) Canada's submission to the Oscars, is a time-shifting drama that's racking up acclaim just in time for its release.

And where would January be without a fluffy rom-com? Worry not: Ashton Kutcher and Natalie Portman are platonic friends trying to maintain an aloof sexual arrangement in **No Strings Attached** (01/21). Didn't Seinfeld test this premise 20 years ago?

February

If you haven't seen enough of Stratford's biggest pop star yet, you can catch **Justin Bieber: Never Say Never** (02/11) in 3-D. Also in the third-dimension: the animated garden gnome comedy **Gnomeo and Juliet** (02/11) and **Drive Angry** (02/25) featuring Nicolas Cage as a very vengeful father.

Meanwhile, Adam Sandler convinces Jennifer Aniston to help him score in **Just Go With It** (02/11), while bored hubby Owen Wilson gets a **Hall Pass** (02/25) from his wife to have an affair.

But February is defined mostly by suspense, with films such as the college-themed horror flick **The Roommate** (02/04), sci-fi blockbuster **I Am Number Four** (02/18), Liam Neeson's mistaken-identity thriller **Unknown** (02/18) and the James Cameron-produced underwater nail-biter **Sanctum** (02/04).

▶ Liam Neeson stars in Unknown, which opens Feb. 18.

▶ Sucker Punch opens March 25.

March

Johnny Depp kicks off the month voicing a gunslinging chameleon in the quirky animated comedy **Rango** (03/04), while other (partly) animated adventures offer friendly alien encounters in **Mars Needs Moms** (03/11) and **Paul** (03/18).

Serious literature gets the big-screen treatment with another cinematic makeover of Charlotte Brontë's classic **Jane Eyre** (03/11) and novelist Michael Connelly's adaptation of **The Lincoln Lawyer** (03/18). Meanwhile, Amanda Seyfried stars as the amped-up fairytale heroine **Red Riding Hood** (03/11).

Expect even more fantastical treats such as **Beastly** (03/18), a modern take on Beauty and the Beast, the dystopian thriller **Battle: Los Angeles** (03/11) and Watchmen-director Zack Snyder's multi-dimensional action-flick **Sucker Punch** (03/25) all aiming to ignite the springtime.

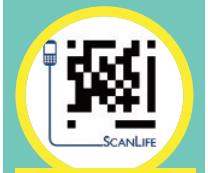
2 scene

News in brief

Call her the guardian angel of Jamie Foxx's music career. The Oscar and Grammy winner said Tuesday his 16-year-old daughter, Corinne, gave him the best advice when he began recording music.

"When I first started, I was doing this little slow music, you know, just R&B ... and my daughter walked in and said, 'What you doing?' I said, 'I'm working on the album.' She said, 'I hope you don't put that on there because you going to put everybody to sleep,'" Foxx said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



After five-year wait, Gran Turismo 5 delivers the best (and worst) in video-game racing.

Mirren goes back in time

Oscar-winner plays an ex-Mossad agent and Nazi hunter in The Debt ◆ British actress with Russian background understands how Europe suffered after the Second World War ◆ Getting adjusted to her role as a sex symbol

ANNE BRODIE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Helen Mirren says she was compelled to make The Debt, a fact-based Holocaust drama about a former Mossad agent forced to confront her past as a Nazi hunter.

"This film, it's my history," Mirren says. "I was born after the war but only just, and I was brought up with (the war) very present in my youth. It was only 10 years before. It's like nothing when I think of it now."

Born Ilyena Mironov to a British mother and Russian father, Mirren wants to recognize what she calls "that profound part of living history. Americans in general have no idea of the suffering in Europe. It's still very much a part of the present. You can feel it."

Mirren is currently in Hungary shooting The Door, which is also set in the same war-weary milieu.

"I play this Hungarian peasant, a housekeeper, a cleaner," she says. "It's a kind of history of Hungary, a history of the suffering of the Hungarian people through World War II, through Communism, and so I think that's what she symbolizes. It's quite heavy and quite surreal and quite Hungarian."

On a lighter note, Mirren addresses her recent upsurge in popularity, her film roles and that sex-symbol vibe.

"I guess it's a good thing," she says, laughing. "But all things pass. We can't get wedded to anything, and I hope the public doesn't get wedded to it either, because then they get really cross with you when it's not the case anymore. Somehow it's your fault, you know!

▶ Helen Mirren stars in The Debt.

"And I expect that to happen any minute. They'll say, 'She used to be sexy. What happened? How could she have done this to us?'"

A busy 2010

The hard-working actress has had a busy 2010 starring in six very different movies.

- **Red.** Mirren gets a chance to show off her action skills in the star-studded spy film.
- **Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole.** Mirren lends her voice to this animated adventure about owls trying to protect the owl kingdom.
- **The Tempest.** Mirren takes on the traditionally male role of Prospero in Shakespeare's tale.
- **Love Ranch.** Mirren plays a madam in the story of the first legal brothel in the United States.
- **Brighton Rock.** This TIFF release is based on a novel by Graham Greene.

NOT YOUR REGULAR CHRISTMAS

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

These days the malls are festooned with Christmas decorations by October, and Starbucks has its yuletide mugs out before the leaves have even turned. Last year a new version of A Christmas Carol opened in early November, and on TV A Christmas Story played for 24 solid hours on Dec. 25. It's easy to get Christmased-out long before the big day rolls around. There's too much tinsel, too many in-your-face Santas, but for movie fans it's possible to get a taste of the holidays without having to watch James Stewart contemplate ending it all.

Here are some Christmas movies for people who don't like Christmas movies:

Creepy Christmas

There are dozens of Christmas horror films with names like Silent Night, Deadly Night, but they're still too Christmasy for this list. I'm thinking more along the lines of American Psycho: who can forget Wall Street serial killer Patrick Bateman (Christian Bale) wearing reindeer antlers? Or, for that matter, the Christmas Eve viral outbreak that decimates the planet in I Am Legend.

Noel Noir

Lots of action/crime movies use Christmas as a setting, so much so that Die Hard and its sequel, both set on Christmas Eve, are regularly played as part of TV Christmas marathons. Others you may have forgotten are Lethal Weapon (Jingle Bell Rock plays during the opening credits), Goodfellas (The Ronettes sing Frosty the Snowman during a Christmas party, and later Henry Hill (Ray Liotta) gives his wife a wad of bills as a Christmas present) and L.A. Confidential, which opens on "Bloody" Christmas, 1951, when dozens of policemen beat seven incarcerated Latino men.

You Sleigh Me

Looking for holiday laughs? According to Monty Python's The Meaning of Life, every day in Heaven is Christmastime, complete with dancers dressed as sexy Santas. In Trading Places we first see Dan Aykroyd drunk and decked out as Santa on a bus eating crusted food stuck in his beard. Even funnier is Ferdinand the duck's alarming exclamation "Christmas means carnage!" in the movie Babe.

Mistletoe Melodrama

Let's face it, Christmas brings a gamut of emotions, not just love and goodwill, and that's precisely why yuletide scenes are so effective in dramas. Far From Heaven, the Todd Haynes film about family secrets, uses a drunken Christmas party to unveil some hard truths. And, of course, without the Christmas scene in Citizen Kane there would be no Rosebud mystery.

Movie review See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

Gulliver's Travels
Genre: Comedy
Director: Rob Letterman
Stars: Jack Black, Jason Segel, Amanda Peet
●

Jack Black's latest film might be called Gulliver's Travels, but the only things it shares with Jonathan Swift's masterful satire is the title, the land of little people named Lilliput and a scene in which Gulliver empties his bladder to put out a fire.

Unless there's a giant robot battle not available in most editions of the novel, it has to be assumed that no one involved with this production bothered to read it. Instead they decided it would be a good idea to have a giant Jack Black try to teach an 18th-century society about Star Wars. Somehow, against all odds, the final movie turned out to be even worse than that description sounds.

The once entertaining Black hasn't found a project suited to his skills since School Of Rock, and it's painful to watch him embarrass himself as a slacker mail clerk who is transported to Lilliput through the Bermuda Triangle (no exaggeration, that's what happens). This abysmal movie is so ill conceived that it's hard to imagine even young children being forgiving enough to find it entertaining. ● PHIL BROWN

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 24 TO THURS., DEC. 30. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

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Conviction (14A) Fri 1:15-3:40 Sun-Thu 1:15-3:40-7:15-9:40
Despicable Me (G) Fri 1:10-3:45 Sun-Thu 1:10-3:45
Due Date (14A) Fri 1:30-4:10 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:25-9:55
It's Kind of a Funny Story (PG) Sun-Thu 9:45
Life as We Know It (PG) Sun-Thu 1:05-3:55-7:05-9:30
Love & Other Drugs (18A) Fri 12:50-4:05 Sun-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:15-9:50
Megamind (G) Fri 1:25-4:15 Sun-Thu 1:25-4:15-7
Morning Glory (PG) Fri 12:45-3:30 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:30-7:20-9:50
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat
Red (14A) Fri 1:20-3:50 Sun-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:45
Secretariat (G) Fri 12:55-3:50 Sun-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:55-9:35
The Social Network (PG) Sun-Thu 9:25
Unstoppable (PG) Fri 1-3:40 Sun-Thu 1-3:40-6:55-10

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The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) Fri 12:20-3:20-7:05
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri 12:50-3:50-7:30 Sat 3:50-7:30-10:25 Sun-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:30-10:25
The Fighter (14A) Fri 1:30-4:30-7:40 Sat 4:30-7:40-10:30 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:30
Gulliver's Travels (PG) No Passes Sat 2:30-4:40-7:05-9:50 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:20-2:30-4:40-7:05-9:50
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 11:40-3:20-6:55 Sat 3:20-6:55-10:15 Sun-Thu 11:40-3:20-6:55-10:15
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 12:10-3:10-7:20 Sat 3:10-7:20-10:10 Sun-Thu 12:10-3:10-7:20-10:10
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 12:30-1-3:40-4:10-6:50-7:50 No Passes Sat 3:40-4:10-6:50-7:50-9:30-10:20 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:30-1-3:40-4:10-6:50-7:50-9:30-10:20
Tangled (G) Fri 11:50-3:50-6:45 Sat 3:50-6:45-9:20 Sun-Thu 11:50-3:50-6:45-9:20
The Tourist (PG) Fri 12:30-4-7:10 Sat 4-7:10-10:05 Sun-Thu 12:30-4-7:10-10:05
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12-3:30-7 No Passes Sat 3:30-7:10 No Passes Sun-Thu 12-3:30-7:10
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 1:10-4:10-7:05 No Passes Sat 4:10-7:05-9:45 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-9:45
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri 11:30-2:10-4:30-6:40 No Passes Sat 2:10-4:30-6:40-9:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 11:30-2:10-4:30-6:40-9:40

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Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri 12:45-3:30-6:50 No Passes Sat 3:30-7:15-10:10 No Passes Sun 12:45-3:30-7:15-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:50-9:50
The King's Speech (PG) Fri 12:15-3:15-6:40 Sat 3:15-6:45-9:50 Sun 12:15-3:15-6:45-9:50 Mon-Thu 12:15-3:15-6:40-9:40
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 1-4-7:10 No Passes Sat 4-7:30-10 No Passes Sun 1-4-7:30-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 1-4-7:10-9:45
The Tourist (PG) Fri 12:30-3:45-6:30 Sat 3:45-6:30-9:40 Sun 12:30-3:45-6:30-9:40 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:45-6:30-9:35

▶ The test of wills between Robert DeNiro and Ben Stiller escalates to new heights of comedy in Little Fockers

Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12-3-7 No Passes Sat 3-7-10:20 No Passes Sun 12-3-7-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-3-7-10

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Black Swan (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:30-4:30-7 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:30-7:30-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:10
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:15-3:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 12:15-3:15
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1-3:45-6:55 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:45-6:50-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1-3:45-6:50-9:40
The Fighter (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:10-4:40-7:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:40-7:35-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:10-4:40-7:35-10:15
Gulliver's Travels (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:10-6:55-9:25 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:20-3:10-6:55-9:25
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:05-3:30-6:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:05-6:35-9:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:05-3:30-6:35-9:50
How Do You Know (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:20-4:20-7:05 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:20-7:05-9:55 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:05-9:55
The King's Speech (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:05-3:55-6:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:55-6:50-9:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:05-3:55-6:50-9:35
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:50-1:20-3:20-3:50-6:45 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:20-3:50-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Wed 12:50-1:20-3:20-3:50-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:50-1:20-3:20-3:50-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45
Tangled 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:10-3:15-6:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:15-6:45-9:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:10-3:15-6:45-9:15
Tees Maar Khan (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2-6:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:55-8 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 2-4:55-8
The Tourist (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-4:05-7:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:05-7:20-10:05 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:45-4:05-7:20-10:05
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1-4-7 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4-7-10:05 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1-4-7-10:05
True Grit (14A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:40-3:40-7:05 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:40-7:05-9:55 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Tue 12:40-3:40-7:05-9:55 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:05-9:55
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:30-3-6:40 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3-6:40-9 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 12:30-3-6:40-9 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:30-3-6:40-9
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12-2:20-4:40-7:10 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:30-7:10-9:30 No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 12-2:20-4:40-7:10-9:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12-2:20-4:40-7:10-9:30

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-4:10-7:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:10-7:10-9:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:45-4:10-7:10-9:50
The Fighter (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:45-4:40-7:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:40-7:40-10:20 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:40-10:20
Gulliver's Travels (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:20-6:40-9:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1-3:20-6:40-9:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:3:15-6:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:15-6:30-9:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12-3:15-6:30-9:45
How Do You Know (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12:20-3:40-7:20 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 3:40-7:20-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:20-10:15
Little Fockers (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 1:30-4:20-7:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 4:20-7:30-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:15
Tangled 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:15-4-6:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4-6:50-9:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:15-4-6:50-9:30
The Tourist (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1-3:50-6:40
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12:10-3:30-6:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 3:30-6:45-10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:45-10
True Grit (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12:30-3:45-7:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 3:45-7:15-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:10
Yogi Bear 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 11:45-2-4:30-7 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 4:30-7-9:20 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun-Thu 11:45-2-4:30-7-9:20

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

Made in Dagenham (14A) Fri 1-3:20 Sun 1-3:20-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:20-7-9:20
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat
True Grit (14A) Fri 1:15-3:30 Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-7:15-9:30

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000

Band Baaja Baaraat (PG) Sat 7:45
Due Date (14A) Fri 1-3:55-7:05 Sun-Thu 1-3:55-7:05-10
Faster (14A) Fri 1:05-3:50-7 Sun-Thu 1:05-3:50-7-9:55
Golmaal 3 (PG) Sat 6:30
Isi Life Mein (PG) Fri 9:30 Sat 4:30-7:30 Sun-Thu 9:30
Love & Other Drugs (18A) Fri 12:45-3:35-6:45 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:35
Mar Jawan Gur Khake (PG) Fri 4:15 Sat 4-7:15 Sun-Thu 4:15
Megamind (G) Fri 12:45-3:45-7:15 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:15 Fri Sun-Thu
Morning Glory (PG) Fri 6:45 Sun-Thu 6:45-9:40
No Problem (14A) Sat 4:15-8
Red (14A) Fri 12:55-3:40-6:50 Sun-Thu 12:55-3:40-6:50-9:45
Skyline (14A) Fri 1:10-4:05 Sun-Thu 1:10-4:05-10:05
Tees Maar Khan (PG) Fri 2-6:30-8:30 Sat 3:30-5-7-8:30 Sun-Thu 2-6:30-8:30
Toonpur Ka Superhero (STC) Fri 1:30 Sat 3:45-6:45 Sun-Thu 1:30
Unstoppable (PG) Fri 12:50-4-6:55 Sun-Thu 12:50-4-6:55-9:50

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-4:05-7:10-10
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:20-10:25
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:20
Gulliver's Travels 3D (PG) No Passes Sat-Thu 11:50-2:05-4:25-7:10-9:45
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:30-3-6:30-9:55 Fri 12:45-4:15-8
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:30-7:10-10:10
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:30
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-1-3:15-4:20-6:50-7:20-9:50-10:30
Love & Other Drugs (18A) Fri-Thu 10
Tangled 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:35-2:10-4:45-7:25-10:05
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-7:15-10:05
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-3-6:55-10
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:15-10:15
Tron: Legacy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11-1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-7:05-10:15
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:10-4:30-7:25
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:15-1:25-3:50-6:50-9:30

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

365 Days, A Year of Shorts (STC) Wed 4:45
A Christmas Tale (14A) Fri 12:30-5 Sun-Tue 5-9:25 Wed 9:25 Thu 5-9:25
Fair Game (PG) Mon-Thu 12:10
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 2:10 Sun-Thu 2:10-6:45
Kings of Pastry (STC) Sun 12:30

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Burlesque (PG) Sat-Thu 9:50
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri 12:20-3:30-6:25 Sat-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:45-9:35
The Fighter (14A) Fri 12:05-3:15-6:35 Sat-Thu 12:05-3:15-7:10-10
Gulliver's Travels 3D (PG) No Passes Sat-Thu 11:50-2:20-5-7:40-10:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 11:45-3:20-6:40 Sat-Thu 11:45-3:20-6:40-10:15
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 12:10-3:05-7:05 Sat-Thu 12:10-3:05-7:05-10:20
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 12:15-12:45-2:50-3:25-6:30-6:55 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:15-12:45-2:50-3:25-6:55-7:20-9:40-10
Tangled (G) Fri 12:35-3:10-6:50 Sat-Thu 12:35-3:10-6:50-9:30
Tangled 3D (G) Fri 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20
The Tourist (PG) Fri 12:50-3:45-7:05 Sat-Thu 12:50-3:45-7:35-10:30
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri 12-3-6:20 No Passes Sat-Thu 12-3-6:35-9:45
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12:30-3:40-7 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:30-10:35
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 12:40-3:35-7:10 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:40-3:35-7:10-10:05
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri 12:25-2:45-5:05-7:15
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri 11:55-2:25-4:40-7:15 No Passes Sat-Thu 11:55-2:25-4:50-7:25-9:55

THE UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN
612 8th Ave. S.W., 403-265-0120

The Fighter (14A) Fri 12:05-2:25 Sun-Thu 12:05-2:25-7:10-9:25
Inside Job (PG) Fri 2:15 Sun-Thu 2:15-7
The Next Three Days (PG) Fri 11:45-4:35 Sun-Thu 11:45-4:35
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat
Tamara Drewe (STC) Fri 4:55 Sun-Thu 4:55-9:15

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri 12:50-3:45-7:05 Sat 3:45-7:05-9:45 Sun-Thu 12:50-3:45-7:05-9:45
The Fighter (14A) Fri 1:10-4-7:30 Sat 4-7:30-10:20 Sun-Thu 1:10-4-7:30-10:20
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:10-3:20-6:40 Sat 3:20-6:40-9:50 Sun-Thu 12:10-3:20-6:40-9:50
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 12:30-3:30-7:20 Sat 3:30-7:20-10:10 Sun-Thu 12:30-3:30-7:20-10:10
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 1:05-4:10-7:25 No Passes Sat 4:10-7:25-9:55 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:25-9:55
Tangled (G) Fri 1:20-3:55-6:50 Sat 3:55-6:50-9:20 Sun-Thu 1:20-3:55-6:50-9:20
The Tourist (PG) Fri 1:30-4:20-7:55 Sat 4:20-7:55-10:30 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:55-10:30
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12:40-3:40-7 No Passes Sat 3:40-7:10 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:10
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 12:20-3:10-7:45 No Passes Sat 3:10-7:45-10:25 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:20-3:10-7:45-10:25
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri 12-2:10-4:30-7:15 No Passes Sat 3-5:10-7:20-9:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 12-2:10-4:30-7:15-9:30

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Midnight Mass

Broken City Social Club will host the A-Team Christmas Eve Midnight Mass on Friday. Festivities begin at 9 p.m. at 613 11 Ave S.W.

Presents

If you're looking to have your presents wrapped, Westbrook Mall is offering wrapping services in exchange for a donation to Meals on Wheels.

Santa

Friday will be the last chance to visit Santa at the mall as he has a busy evening ahead of him on Christmas Eve. Santa will be at Deerfoot Mall between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Theatre

Theatre Calgary will be putting on a matinée of A Christmas Carol on Dec. 24 and 26. The show starts at 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve and on Boxing Day there will be a show at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Musical

The Cat In The Hat will be taking the stage in Seussical the Musical on Christmas Eve and Boxing Day for 1 p.m. shows and an additional 6 p.m. show on Dec. 26. The show runs until Dec. 30.

Lights

Zoolights will be open this weekend on Dec. 24 and Dec. 26. The display of lights at the Calgary Zoo can be seen from 6 to 9 p.m.

Entertainment

MICHAEL

MUSIC

Michael Jackson is the King of Pop — still. Though he's not No. 1 on North American music charts, Jackson's album sold more than 3 million units worldwide. Jackson debuted at No. 1 in Germany, Italy, Sweden and the Netherlands.

PAULY D

TV

MTV announced this week it signed a deal with Jersey Shore disc jockey Paul (DJ Pauly D) DelVecchio to star in his own spinoff based on footage filmed of the self-proclaimed "guido" in September.

JUSTIN BIEBER

INTERNET

No one had more video views online in 2010 than pop star Justin Bieber. Music video website Vevo has named the 10 most-viewed clips of the year and Bieber took the top spot and two other positions on the list. Baby, with Ludacris, came in first. It was viewed more than 416 million times.

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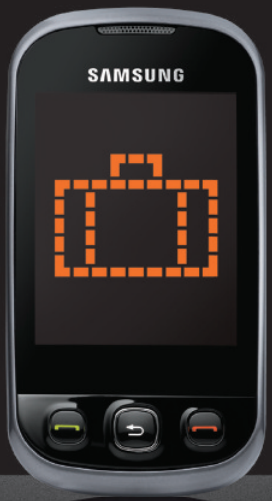

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Northgate Centre
780 478-9815

EDMONTON
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780 498-0069

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Jolie comment badly Handled?

Comedienne Chelsea Handler a friend of Jennifer Aniston's Handler reportedly called Jolie a 'homewrecker' over relationship with Aniston's ex

It looks like Chelsea Handler's outspoken rant about Angelina Jolie may have cost her a friendship with Jennifer Aniston, according to Popeater.

"Jen and Chelsea haven't officially fallen out, but they certainly won't be going on vacation together for a long time unless Chelsea promises to never talk about Angelina again," a source says.

"She understands that what Chelsea did was out of loyalty, but it didn't help. In fact, it made things worse. Jen is a very private person."

METRO

Chelsea Handler

Lindsay's mom lashes out at rehab worker

Dina Lohan is striking back at Dawn Holland, the Betty Ford Center worker who was dismissed after speaking to the press about an altercation with Lindsay Lohan, according to TMZ.

"With all the fabulous employees they have, it's unfortunate that someone with this kind of background gets through," Dina says.

Holland had claimed that Dina was on the phone with Lindsay at the time of their scuffle, telling her daughter to refuse a Breathalyzer test.

"I stand behind my daughter 100 per cent. The whole thing with the woman is a little sketchy," Dina says.

METRO

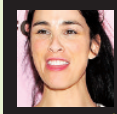
Dina Lohan

Celebrity tweets

Jessica Alba [@jessica alba] Finally got our Xmas tree!.... I can't believe Xmas is already here! Who's ready? Who's not?

Seth MacFarlane [@Seth MacFarlane] Hey America, are you really gonna eat that? Seriously? All of it? Christ.

Eddie Izzard [@eddie izzard] Heathrow was closed, so I am having an adventure to get back to London. Took the ferry to Hollyhead (very nice thanks) & now train to London



Sarah Silverman [@SarahK Silverman] If selfdepreciation was modesty Mother Teresa would've said "Its a kingly act 2 assist the fallen &also my thighs r gross"

Williams opens up about Ledger's death

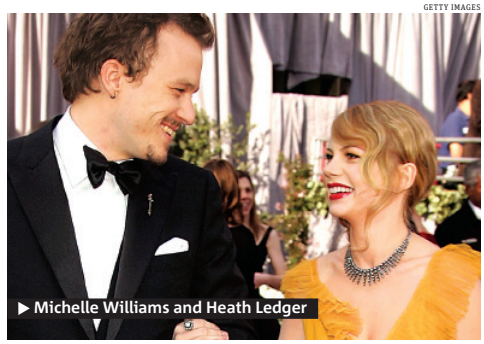
Michelle Williams is speaking publicly about the death of Heath Ledger for the first time since her ex's passing almost three years ago, telling ABC News she "got kind of obsessed with that for a while, the before and after," during a tearful interview.

"I can't find a meaning for it," Williams says.

"I can find meanings in things and people and relationships that have sprung up and friendships that have strengthened. I can find a lot of meaning in that, but not in why."

METRO

GETTY IMAGES


Michelle Williams and Heath Ledger

News in brief

Kelly stands up for Miley

VIDEO. Kelly Osbourne is coming to Miley Cyrus' defence in the wake of the Disney star being featured in an online video smoking a bong of the hallucinogenic drug salvia.

"This really makes me mad. Miley is one of the most hard working respectful women I have ever worked with I am learning a lot from her," Osbourne posted on Twitter. The duo are currently filming a movie together in New Orleans. METRO

Schwimmer, wife expecting first child

FAMILY. David Schwimmer is going to be a dad. The former Friends star and his wife, Zoe Buckman, are expecting their first child, according to Entertainment Weekly.

METRO

Dr. Drew takes back comments

ADVICE. Dr. Drew Pinsky is doing a quick about-face on his comments from earlier this week about Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt heading for a split because of her history with drugs, according to Radar Online.

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3 life

Christmas past

It's unanimous: Canadians prefer traditional Christmas celebrations to modern ones, so move over, Jonas Brothers ... Elvis is still King — at least during the holidays.

"The holidays are a time for nostalgia," says Canadian caterer Madeleine Johari. "We enjoy reminiscing about the 'good ole days' during the holidays, which is why retro-themed celebrations are so popular: they're ideal for taking guests down memory lane."

Johari ensures all her events feature the classics such as Bing Crosby, canapés and rice pudding, but her most popular retro attraction is her soda fountain bar. Ice cream floats, swamp water and milkshakes are all featured with creative holiday names in a framed menu.

NEWS CANADA

SCANLIFE

Turn leftover Christmas turkey into deluxe multigrain sandwiches.

Seasonal sippers

The results are in! Canadians love their libations this time of year

NEWS CANADA

Festive glassware can add some spirit to your spirits.

Are holiday tipples an important part of the festive season? According to 82 per cent of Canadians, the answer is yes!

In a recent poll commissioned by Evangeline PR, more than 80 per cent of Canadians indicated that a glass of festive merriment is a yuletide must.

"Canadians love to celebrate during the holidays and mouth-watering cocktails (or mocktails) make the season that much more festive," says Sherri Zielinski, president of Evangeline PR.

To ensure your seasonal sips are a smashing success, here are the Top 10 tips to ensure your bar is holiday-ready:

• Ice is nice: Make extra and store it: you can never have too much.

• If you don't have a bar, consider purchasing a bar cart: it ensures more time is spent with your guests and not in the kitchen.

• Purchase festive-themed glassware in which to serve your tipples.

• Decorate your bar with colours of the season such as a red velvet underlay and a green or gold overlay.

• Stock up on seasonal garnishes such as cinnamon sticks, cranberries and candy canes to transform any drink into a holiday masterpiece.

• For no muss, no fuss cocktails, choose flavoured vodkas such as Three Olives Bubble that can be served alone, with pink lemonade or lemon-lime soda for a quick, two-ingredient delicious cocktail.

• Serve up some nostalgia with soda-fountain bar drinks from yesteryear. Try Three Olives Root Beer vodka and treat your guests to a grown-up root-beer float.

• Create a custom menu with fun drink names; place in a holiday frame to display on your bar.

• Keep a slush bucket near your bar for leftovers when a sink isn't nearby or convenient.

• Drink responsibly: invite guests to stay overnight or pre-order taxis. NEWS CANADA

Float Santa's Boat

Preparation:

1. In a frosted mug, add Three Olives Root Beer vodka and fill with club soda. Add 1 or 2 scoops of ice cream to the top. Garnish with whipped cream and a cherry
2. In an ice-filled rocks glass, add Three Olives Bubble vodka along with pink lemonade. Float a couple of fresh cranberries on top and garnish with a small candy cane.

Ingredients:

- 2 oz. Three Olives Root Beer Vodka
- 1-2 scoops Vanilla Ice Cream
- Club soda
- Maraschino cherry garnish
- 2 oz. Three Olives Bubble Vodka
- 2 oz. Pink lemonade
- Fresh cranberries
- Candy cane garnish

Thinking beyond the cane

Colourful candies can be so much more than just a yummy treat at Christmastime

NEWS CANADA

A few leftover sweets can make for an instant tree decoration.

Gingerbread, gumdrops, chocolates and shortbread ... the holidays wouldn't be the same without those special nostalgic treats to satisfy our yuletide sweet tooth.

According to Madeleine Johari, Canadian caterer and candy expert, "Sweets spark fond memories of the holidays more than any other food."

Johari says "distinctive flavours such as bubble gum, root beer, licorice and peppermint conjure up images of holidays past that inspire us to reminisce with friends and family. And that's what the holidays are all about!"

For some creative ways to incorporate nostalgic sweets into your holiday celebrations and create edible memories to last a lifetime, Johari recommends the following:

• Thread gumballs on a long piece of string to make a festive and colourful garland for your tree. It's also a great reward in January when it's time to take the decorations down.

• Create edible straws for drinks by replacing the plastic ones with licorice sticks for an extra sweet finish.

• Accessorize with sweets: on a silver platter, offer guests a selection of candy necklaces, rings, bracelets and more for easy access to the seductive smell and taste of sweets all night long: this is a kids favourite! NEWS CANADA

Time runs out on MacLean in N.J.

Facing the prospect of missing the playoffs for the first time since 1997, the New Jersey Devils fired rookie coach John MacLean on Thursday and brought back the firm hand of Jacques Lemaire to try to salvage the season.

The Devils have been one of the most disappointing teams in the NHL this season. New Jersey is tied with the New York Islanders for the fewest points in the league with 20 in 33 games (9-22-2). Their 59 goals are also the fewest.

The 65-year-old Lemaire is expected to coach the team Thursday night against the Islanders.

"It's a decision that certainly is not one that's pleasant or we feel good about," Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello said. "But it's a decision that, in my opinion, had to be made."

Lamoriello made the decision two days after the Devils dropped a 5-1 decision to Washington for their third straight loss and eighth in nine games this month. The Devils have been outscored 15-3 in the last three games.

A perennial contender, the Devils were expected to be among the leaders again this season after re-signing all-star forward Ilya Kovalchuk to a 15-year, $100-million US contract in the off-season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ John MacLean on the Devil's bench in November.

Flames survive Stars in shootout

Tanguay comes through in the clutch to end Calgary's losing slide

3	2
FLAMES	STARS

Alex Tanguay converted in the second round of the shootout after scoring late in regulation, Miikka Kiprusoff stopped all three Dallas shooters, and the Calgary Flames snapped a three-game losing streak with a 3-2 victory over the Stars on Thursday night.

Tanguay beat Kari Lehtonen for the only goal in the tiebreaker. Kiprusoff stopped Loui Eriksson and Brad Richards in the first two rounds, and Dallas' Mike Ribeiro failed to get off a clean shot in the third round.

Brenden Morrow had given the Stars a 2-1 lead at 2:41 of the third period, knocking the rebound of his own shot past Kiprusoff. But with Kiprusoff on the bench for a sixth attacker, Tanguay tied it with 1:21 left in regulation on a wrist shot from the high slot that beat Lehtonen to the stick side.

Ribeiro scored a power-play goal and Lehtonen stopped 31 shots for the Stars, 10-0-3 in their last 13 at home. Kiprusoff made 14 saves and Anton Babchuk scored on the power play for the Flames.

Calgary struck first when Babchuk's shot from beyond the left circle got past a screened Lehtonen at 11:03 of the first period, a second before the Flames' power play was to expire.

Ribeiro's one-timer from the right circle drew Dallas even with 2:47 left in the opening period, 16 seconds into the Stars' first power play of the night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Alex Tanguay returns to the Flames bench after scoring a goal in the third period against the Dallas Stars Thursday night.

Bronco gets cited for assault

Broncos Pro Bowl linebacker Elvis Dumervil has been cited for assault and disturbing the peace for an alleged run-in with a security guard at Invesco Field.

Denver court records show the reported incident happened on Oct. 24, the day the Broncos were blown out 59-14 by the Oakland Raiders.

Dumervil's lawyer, Harvey Steinberg, told The Associated Press the linebacker forgot his credentials and a guard wouldn't allow him into a players' parking lot, despite Dumervil showing his driver's licence.

Steinberg said Thursday that it was a simple disagreement and that it's "unfair Elvis is being villainized." The incident was first reported by Denver's KDVR-TV.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL PHOTOS

▶ Elvis Dumervil

Sports in brief

Owner has Ryan's back

NFL. Woody Johnson is standing by his coach. The New York Jets owner said Thursday that Rex Ryan has his full support, a day after the embarrassed coach declined comment about a foot-fetish report by the blog Deadspin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

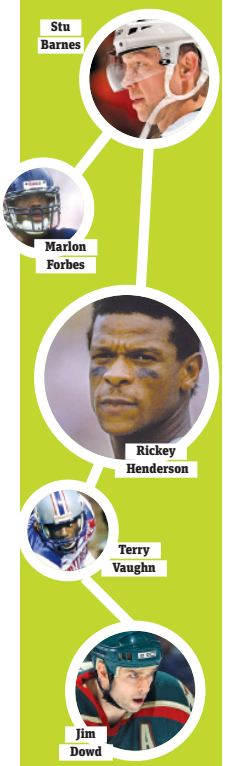
Favre shows symptoms

NFL. Brett Favre has missed his second straight day of practice. Vikings coach Leslie Frazier says his quarterback is still showing symptoms from a concussion.

The coach declined to rule out Favre for Sunday night's game against Philadelphia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports



The connection

Can you guess the connection between these athletes? Answer below.

Answer: They were all born on Christmas Day.

Scan for code for more sports

Opinion

SCOTT RUSSELL
FIELD OF PLAY

CROSBY'S ON-ICE GIFTS JUST KEEP ON GIVING

Few greater treasures exist for a hockey-loving nation than a player who has come to symbolize the sport most of us obsess over.

Sidney Crosby glitters like gold because of what he does on the ice. This puckish Pittsburgh Penguin star is considered to be a Canadian treasure. And in the Christmas celebration of 2010, Crosby's gift to the game still creates a sense of wonder.

Even for the Scrooge in those of us who have allowed hockey to lose its sheen, "Sid the Kid" has the ability to bring us back. Just like the brand new pair of skates that we once rushed to discover under the tree — Crosby is a little bit of magic.

By his playing hockey, Crosby causes us to follow his amazing voyage of delight even when we are distracted by other things. He's so good that if you aren't watching him, you're really not watching the game.

Recently, CBC Sports declared he was the most influential person in the realm of Canadian sport. He polled more votes than all the executives, administrators and people wearing expensive suits who scheme behind the scenes to transform games into entertainment properties and business propositions.

Why?

It's because Crosby makes things happen by virtue of simply playing. He scored the "Golden Goal" that ignited a nation at the Olympics in Vancouver. In the end, he gave us the greatest celebration we could have hoped for. Others may have contributed but it was Crosby who, when all was said and done, was the founder of the feast.

His scoring exploits this season are causing us to keep track of his statistics and check in on games when the Penguins are playing in spite of the fact that we've already lost faith in the Leafs and other beloved teams. You have to smile each time you see a kid wearing a Penguins sweater with Crosby's name tattooed on the back.

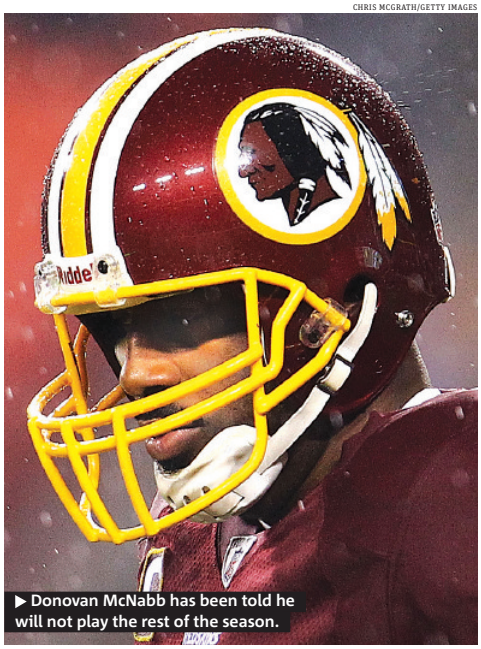
He causes people to believe.

I remember when my colleague Bruce Rainnie first introduced us to Sidney Crosby on Hockey Day in Canada a few years back, and we all discovered the kid from Nova Scotia who was known to fire pucks at his mother's washer and dryer. I met him with Kelly Hrudey at Grand Parade Square in Halifax. He was just a smiling boy.

Crosby was a wonder then and remains a wonder now.

The gift of Sid is very welcome this Christmas. He is to hockey what spirit is to the season — the essential ingredient.

CHRIS MCGRATH/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Donovan McNabb has been told he will not play the rest of the season.

McNabb's agent goes on the attack

Washington coaches slammed as 'disrespectful' over handling of their high-paid quarterback

The simmering feud between Donovan McNabb and Mike Shanahan and his son continued Thursday with a blistering statement from the quarterback's agent.

Fletcher Smith took aim directly at the Washington coach and Kyle Shanahan, the Redskins' offensive co-ordinator, for the way they have handled the benching of his client.

Smith said the bad blood between the quarterback and the Washington coaches is due to McNabb's suggestions for improving the Redskins' offence.

"I believe there is tension between Donovan and Kyle that's rooted in the fact that Donovan has suggested modifications to Kyle's offence based on intricacies Donovan has learned in his NFL career," Smith wrote. "For example, Donovan has asked all year that the team run more screen passes to help manage the pass rush more effectively. Ironically, Kyle decided to employ Donovan's suggestions after he unceremoniously benched him on Sunday."

McNabb listened to questions from reporters Thursday while sitting in his car after practice, but did not answer before driving off. He was benched before last Sunday's game against Dallas and told by Mike Shanahan that he would not play the remainder of the season. Smith said in a statement that the Shanahans have made comments that go beyond disrespectful and "unprecedented for a six-time Pro Bowl quarterback such as Donovan."

Smith said the comments made by the Shanahans — "both Mike and more specifically Kyle" — have made the quarterback's relationship with Washington difficult to maintain.

Late Thursday, Mike Shanahan responded with a statement of his own.

"As I stated earlier, when I traded for Donovan McNabb I had hoped that he would lead us to the playoffs," Mike Shanahan said. "No one wanted him to be more successful than me. When the team was 5-8 and mathematically out of the playoffs, I made the decision to evaluate our other two quarterbacks."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ups and downs

- Donovan McNabb was benched only once in 11 years with Philadelphia, and he's already doubled that total with the Redskins since being acquired by the team in April.
- Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said he felt Rex Grossman had a better grasp of the team's two-minute offence.
- After benching him the first time, the Redskins gave McNabb a five-year contract extension worth up to $78 million US.
- The deal contains a clause that allows the Redskins to cut McNabb before next season with no further financial obligation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colts' Addai returns for push to the post-season

Colts' running back Joseph Addai expects to return Sunday at Oakland after missing the past eight games with a nerve injury in his left shoulder, the first positive news on the injury front for Indianapolis in quite a while.

"I feel like it's a great chance. I feel like I'm heading in the right direction," Addai said Thursday, one day after participating fully in practice. "I felt good. I didn't set myself back. Really, I'm just happy to put on a uniform and just get back into it."

Linebacker Clint Session also is likely to play after missing the past seven games with a broken arm and a dislocated elbow. Their returns coincide with the Colts losing wide receiver Austin Collie for the season. He sustained a concussion last Sunday against Jacksonville.

Addai has 5,280 yards from scrimmage and 46 touchdowns in five seasons. He rushed for 128 yards and a touchdown against Washington this season before hurting the shoulder.

The Colts average 95 yards rushing with Addai and 78 without him. Indy also has a higher average per carry and generally controls the clock better when Addai plays.

"He brings so many intangibles," coach Jim Caldwell said. "He certainly does make a difference."

Caldwell didn't say whether Addai would start, or how carries would be distributed if he were available. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Pittsburgh	36	24	10	2	0	118	83	50	12-6-1-0	12-4-1-0	8-2-0-0	W3
d-Tampa Bay	35	20	10	3	2	109	114	45	10-2-1-1	10-8-2-1	7-1-1-1	W1
d-Montreal	35	20	13	2	0	92	79	42	12-5-2-0	8-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Philadelphia	35	22	8	2	3	117	87	49	12-6-0-2	10-2-2-1	7-2-0-1	L1
Washington	37	20	12	2	3	111	103	45	13-4-1-3	7-8-1-0	2-5-1-2	L1
Atlanta	37	19	13	1	4	118	108	43	10-7-0-2	9-6-1-2	5-3-0-2	L2
NY Rangers	36	20	14	1	1	108	95	42	8-8-1-1	12-6-0-0	6-3-0-1	L2
Boston	33	18	11	1	3	93	69	40	9-6-1-2	9-5-0-1	5-3-1-1	W1
Carolina	33	15	14	0	4	92	102	34	7-6-0-1	8-8-0-3	4-4-0-2	L2
Ottawa	36	15	17	3	1	83	107	34	8-9-1-1	7-8-2-0	4-3-2-1	W1
Florida	33	16	17	0	0	91	86	32	7-6-0-0	9-11-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Buffalo	35	14	17	4	0	92	101	32	8-10-1-0	6-7-3-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Toronto	33	12	17	2	2	75	102	28	8-7-2-1	4-10-0-1	4-6-0-0	L3
NY Islanders	32	8	18	3	3	72	106	22	5-7-1-2	3-11-2-1	3-6-0-1	W2
New Jersey	34	9	23	1	1	60	108	20	5-9-1-1	4-14-0-0	1-9-0-0	L4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	34	21	9	3	1	113	96	46	13-4-2-1	8-5-1-0	4-5-1-0	L1
d-Dallas	35	21	10	1	3	102	95	46	12-3-1-2	9-7-0-1	5-2-1-2	L1
d-Vancouver	33	20	8	3	2	112	86	45	11-3-1-1	9-5-2-1	6-2-2-0	W1
Colorado	35	19	12	4	0	122	113	42	10-6-1-0	9-6-3-0	6-3-1-0	L2
San Jose	34	18	11	4	1	102	95	41	9-4-2-1	9-7-2-0	6-3-0-1	W3
Chicago	36	19	14	2	1	115	104	41	11-9-0-0	8-5-2-1	6-3-1-0	W3
Nashville	34	17	11	4	2	85	85	40	8-3-3-2	9-8-1-0	6-3-1-0	L3
Anaheim	38	18	16	2	2	98	111	40	11-6-0-1	7-10-2-1	5-4-0-1	L1
Los Angeles	32	19	12	1	0	95	75	39	11-2-1-0	8-10-0-0	6-3-1-0	W1
St. Louis	34	17	12	2	3	90	96	39	11-4-0-2	6-8-2-1	5-3-1-1	W2
Phoenix	32	15	10	4	3	89	93	37	6-4-2-2	9-6-2-1	4-4-0-2	L1
Columbus	34	17	14	2	1	88	98	37	9-9-0-1	8-5-2-0	4-5-1-0	L1
Minnesota	33	16	13	1	3	82	92	36	8-7-0-2	8-6-1-1	6-2-1-1	W3
Calgary	36	15	18	1	2	95	105	33	9-7-0-0	6-11-1-2	4-5-0-1	W1
Edmonton	32	12	15	1	4	85	110	29	6-8-1-1	6-7-1-2	6-3-0-1	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Calgary 3 Dallas 2 (SO)
Montreal 3 Carolina 2
Ottawa 2 Nashville 1
Vancouver 7 Columbus 3
Boston 4 Atlanta 1
Florida 4 Buffalo 3
Minnesota 3 Colorado 1
N.Y. Islanders 5 New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 3 Washington 2 (SO)
St. Louis 4 Detroit 3
Tampa Bay 4 N.Y. Rangers 3 (SO)
Edmonton at Los Angeles
Phoenix at San Jose
Wednesday's results
Detroit 5 Vancouver 4 (OT)
Chicago 4 Nashville 1
N.Y. Islanders 2 Tampa Bay 1 (OT)
Pittsburgh 5 Florida 2
Tonight's/Tomorrow's games
All times Eastern
No Games Scheduled.
Sunday's games
Pittsburgh at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Montreal at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Washington at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Nashville at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.

CANUCKS 7, BLUE JACKETS 3

First Period
1. Vancouver, Burrows 7 (H.Sedin, D.Sedin) 9:08
2. Vancouver, Ehrhoff 6 (H.Sedin, Burrows) 12:04
3. Vancouver, Torres 9 (Alberts) 13:13
Penalties — Bieksa Vcr (slashing), Sestito Clb (roughing, roughing) 19:20.
Second Period
4. Vancouver, D.Sedin 18 (Edler, H.Sedin) 4:13
5. Vancouver, Kesler 17 (Hansen, Tambellini) 8:43
6. Vancouver, H.Sedin 8 (D.Sedin, Burrows) 12:46
7. Columbus, Umberger 9 (Vermette) 15:49
Penalties — Tambellini Vcr (holding) 9:04, Voracek Clb (goaltender interference) 13:43, Nash Clb (slashing) 18:45.
Third Period
8. Vancouver, Torres 10 (Hamhuis, Samuelsson) 6:46 (pp)
9. Columbus, Umberger 10 (Voracek) 9:08
10. Columbus, Sestito 2 (Russell, Wilson) 12:20
Penalties — Vermette Clb (cross-checking, tripping) 4:51, Ballard Vcr, Dorsett Clb (slashing) 20:00.
Shots

Vancouver	17	7	6	—30
Columbus	5	6	16	—27

Goal (shots-saves) — Vancouver: C.Schneider (W,4-0-2); Columbus: Garon (L,8-5-2)(22-16), Mason (12:46 second)(8-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 1-5; Columbus: 0-1.
Referees — Dan O'Halloran, Justin St. Pierre.
Linesmen — Derek Amell, David Brisebois.
Att. — 12,159 (18,144) at Columbus, Ohio.

CANADIENS 3, HURRICANES 2

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Weber Mtl (elbowing) 8:25, Harrison Car (tripping) 19:17.
Second Period
1. Carolina, LaRose 7 (Carter, Gleason) 1:02 (sh)
2. Montreal, Gomez 5 (Hamrlik, Spacek) 4:47
3. Carolina, Cole 7 (E.Staal) 15:17
4. Montreal, Kostitsyn 10 (Plekanec, Cammalleri) 16:57 (pp)
5. Montreal, Picard 3 (Gomez, Spacek) 19:00 (pp)
Penalty — Cole Car (boarding major) 15:26.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Hamrlik Mtl (interference) 0:23, Eller Mtl (delay of game) 10:40, LaRose Car (tripping) 17:47.
Shots

Montreal	11	14	4	—29
Carolina	5	9	10	—24

Goal — Montreal: Price (W,19-11-2); Carolina: Ward (L,14-10-3). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 2-5; Carolina: 0-3.
Referees — Chris Lee, Dean Morton. **Linesmen** — Scott Cherrey, Derek Nansen.
Att. — 16,981 (18,680) at Raleigh, N.C.

SENATORS 2, PREDATORS 1

First Period
1. Ottawa, Kovalev 8 (Regin) 9:35
Penalties — Smithson Nash (interference) 11:16, Phillips Ott (interference) 14:43, Ward Nash (high-sticking) 19:12.
Second Period
2. Ottawa, Foligno 4 (Michalek, Kuba) 4:58 (pp)
3. Nashville, Goc 7 (Franson) 7:16
Penalties — S.O'Brien Nash (hooking) 3:18, Rutu Ott (tripping) 5:09, Tootoo Nash (tripping) 11:29, Winchester Ott (holding stick) 15:24, S.O'Brien Nash (interference) 18:23, Foligno Ott (interference) 19:40.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shots

Ottawa	14	9	7	—30
Nashville	10	9	7	—26

Goal — Ottawa: Elliott (W,11-10-3); Nashville: Rinne (L,8-8-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Ottawa: 1-5; Nashville: 0-4.
Referees — Ian Walsh, Rob Martell. **Linesmen** — Jonny Murray, Pierre Racicot.
Att. — 17,113 (17,113) at Nashville, Tenn.

FLAMES 3, STARS 2 (SO)

First Period
1. Calgary, Babchuk 5 (Bouwmeester, Morrison) 11:03 (pp)
2. Dallas, Ribeiro 6 (Eriksson, Richards) 17:13 (pp)
Penalties — Iginla Cal, Benn Dal (fighting) 7:19, Ott Dal (tripping) 9:04, Grossman Dal (holding) 14:36, Jackman Cal (delay of game) 16:57.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Burish Dal (hooking) 1:11, Tanguay Cal (holding stick) 1:16, Stajan Cal (tripping) 18:01.
Third Period
3. Dallas, Morrow 13 (Ribeiro, Benn) 2:41
4. Calgary, Tanguay 10 (Iginla, Bourque) 18:39
Penalties — Regehr Cal, Segal Dal (fighting) 5:55, Ott Dal (hooking) 14:28.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Calgary wins 1-0
Calgary (1) — Tanguay, goal; Hagman, miss.
Dallas (0) — Eriksson, miss; Richards, miss; Ribeiro, miss.
Shots

Calgary	6	10	15	2	—33
Dallas	4	2	7	3	—16

Goal — Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,13-16-1); Dallas: Lehtonen (L,15-7-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Calgary: 1-4; Dallas: 1-3.
Referees — Gord Dwyer, Marc Joannette.
Linesmen — Darren Gibbs, Bryan Pancich.
Att. — 15,520 (18,532) at Dallas.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	28	30	58
Stamkos, TB	26	21	47
St. Louis, TB	13	30	43
Perry, Ana	19	22	41
D.Sedin, Vcr	17	23	40
B.Richards, Dal	16	23	39
Datsyuk, Det	12	27	39
Ovechkin, Wash	12	27	39
H.Sedin, Vcr	7	32	39
Eriksson, Dal	15	21	36
Getzlaf, Ana	13	23	36
Byfuglien, Atl	12	24	36

Not including last night's games

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Sent RHP Justin Germano outright to Columbus (IL).

NATIONAL LEAGUE
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Sold 1B-OF Rusty Ryal to Yomiuri (Japan-Central).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Acquired INF-OF Corey Wimberly from Oakland for RHP Ryan Kelly. Claimed LHP Aaron Thompson off waivers from the Washington. Designated LHP Wil Ledezma for assignment. Agreed to terms with INF Garrett Atkins on a minor league contract.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Sean Burnett on a two-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA
CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Named Paul Silas coach.

FOOTBALL

NFL
LEAGUE OFFICE—Fined Minnesota CB Antoine Winfield $7,500 for a hit on Chicago QB Jay Cutler in a Dec. 20 game.
CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed DL Ko Quaye from Buffalo's practice squad.

HOCKEY

NHL
NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Fired coach John MacLean. Named Jacques Lemaire coach.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled G Mike Brodeur from Binghamton (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Reassigned F Johan Harju to Norfolk (AHL).

LACROSSE

NLL
BOSTON BLAZERS—Fired coach Tom Ryan.

SOCCER

MLS
NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION—Signed D Ryan Cochrane. Re-signed G Matt Reis.

HOCKEY

IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

At Buffalo and Lewiston, N.Y.
All times Eastern

PRELIMINARY ROUND
Sunday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Germany vs. Switzerland, 12:30 p.m.
Russia vs. **Canada**, 4 p.m.
Finland vs. U.S., 8 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Norway vs. Sweden, 4 p.m.
Monday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Slovakia vs. Germany, 7 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Czech Republic vs. Norway, 7 p.m.
Tuesday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Switzerland vs. Finland, 12:30 p.m.
Canada vs. Czech Republic, 4 p.m.
U.S. vs. Slovakia, 8 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Sweden vs. Russia, 7 p.m.

SPENGLER CUP

At Davos, Switzerland
All Times Eastern
Pool A

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Geneve-Servette HC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKA St. Petersburg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sparta Prague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Pool B

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Canada	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Davos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spartak Moscow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Two points for a win, one for an overtime or shootout loss (registered under the OL column).
Sunday's games
St. Petersburg vs. Geneve-Servette, 9 a.m.
Spartak Moscow vs. Davos, 2:15 p.m.
Monday's games
Sparta Prague vs. TBD, 9 a.m.
Canada vs. TBD, 2:15 p.m.
Tuesday's games
Sparta Prague vs. TBD, 9 a.m.
Canada vs. TBD, 2:15 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	23	4	.852	—
d-Miami	21	9	.700	3½
d-Chicago	18	9	.667	5
Atlanta	19	12	.613	6
New York	17	12	.586	7
Orlando	17	12	.586	7
Indiana	13	14	.481	10
Milwaukee	11	16	.407	12
Philadelphia	11	18	.379	13
Detroit	10	19	.345	14
Toronto	10	19	.345	14
Charlotte	9	19	.321	14½
New Jersey	9	21	.300	15½
Cleveland	8	21	.276	16
Washington	7	20	.259	16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	25	4	.862	—
Dallas	23	5	.821	1½
d-L.A. Lakers	21	8	.724	4
d-Utah	21	9	.700	4½
Oklahoma City	20	10	.667	5½
Denver	16	11	.593	8
New Orleans	17	12	.586	8
Portland	15	14	.517	10
Houston	14	15	.483	11
Phoenix	13	14	.481	11
Memphis	12	17	.414	13
Golden State	10	18	.357	14½
L.A. Clippers	8	22	.267	17½
Minnesota	6	24	.200	19½
Sacramento	5	21	.192	18½

d — division leader
Last night's results
Orlando 123 San Antonio 101
Milwaukee at Sacramento
Miami at Phoenix
Wednesday's results
Atlanta 98 Cleveland 84
Detroit 115 Toronto 93
Chicago 87 Washington 80
Boston 84 Philadelphia 80
New York 112 Oklahoma City 98
Utah 112 Minnesota 107
New Orleans 105 New Jersey 91
San Antonio 109 Denver 103
Houston 97 L.A. Clippers 92
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
No games scheduled
Tomorrow's games
Chicago at New York, 12 p.m.
Boston at Orlando, 2:30 p.m.
Miami at L.A. Lakers, 5 p.m.
Denver at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

LEAGUE LEADERS

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	26	230	217	716	27.5
Stoudemire, NYK	29	288	183	765	26.4
Bryant, LAL	29	255	194	745	25.7
Ellis, GOL	28	272	129	716	25.6
Nowitzki, DAL	28	256	149	687	24.5
James, MIA	30	244	203	729	24.3
Rose, CHI	26	240	106	631	24.3
Anthony, DEN	24	200	161	576	24.0
Gordon, LAC	28	217	188	663	23.7
Martin, HOU	29	193	229	683	23.6
Wade, MIA	29	236	183	682	23.5
Westbrook, OKC	30	232	210	684	22.8
Williams, UTA	30	220	184	671	22.4
Howard, ORL	26	199	167	565	21.7
Beasley, MIN	28	240	96	598	21.4
Granger, IND	26	191	111	553	21.3
Bargnani, TOR	27	217	106	572	21.2
Love, MIN	30	211	166	628	20.9
Griffin, LAC	30	243	138	626	20.9
Gay, MEM	28	223	94	577	20.6
Scola, HOU	29	243	102	588	20.3
Ginobili, SAN	28	170	146	553	19.8
Gasol, LAL	29	220	128	568	19.6
Lopez, NJN	30	205	167	577	19.2
West, NOR	28	216	103	537	19.2
Aldridge, POR	29	219	112	553	19.1
J. Richardson, ORL	27	190	57	502	18.6
Felton, NYK	29	190	96	528	18.2
Bosh, MIA	30	209	125	546	18.2
Pierce, BOS	27	171	118	491	18.2
Jennings, MIL	25	155	91	448	17.9
Millsap, UTA	30	217	98	536	17.9

Not including last night's games

NFL

WEEK 16

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	12	2	0	.857	446	303
N.Y. Jets	10	4	0	.714	295	259
Miami	7	7	0	.500	239	261
Buffalo	4	10	0	.286	273	353

SOUTH

Indianapolis	8	6	0	.571	381	342
Jacksonville	8	6	0	.571	319	365
Tennessee	6	8	0	.429	322	282
Houston	5	9	0	.357	333	386

NORTH

x-Pittsburgh	11	4	0	.733	334	223
Baltimore	10	4	0	.714	324	253
Cleveland	5	9	0	.357	252	271
Cincinnati	3	11	0	.214	281	362

WEST

Kansas City	9	5	0	.643	322	281
San Diego	8	6	0	.571	388	260
Oakland	7	7	0	.500	353	330
Denver	3	11	0	.214	292	415

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	4	0	.714	412	339
N.Y. Giants	9	5	0	.643	360	288
Washington	5	9	0	.357	268	343
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	354	396

SOUTH

x-Atlanta	12	2	0	.857	369	261
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	354	270
Tampa Bay	8	6	0	.571	280	290
Carolina	2	13	0	.133	186	377

NORTH

y-Chicago	10	4	0	.714	293	242
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	333	220
Minnesota	5	9	0	.357	244	314
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	308	329

WEST

St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	258	295
Seattle	6	8	0	.429	279	363
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	250	314
Arizona	4	10	0	.286	255	370

x — clinched playoff berth.
y — clinched division.
Last night's result
Pittsburgh 27 Carolina 3
Tomorrow's game
All times Eastern
Dallas at Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tennessee at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 1 p.m.
Washington at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Cincinnati, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Seattle at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

NCAA

U.S. COLLEGE BOWLS
Subject to Change
All Times Eastern
Last night's result
POINSETTIA BOWL
At San Diego, Calif.
San Diego State 35 Navy 14
Wednesday's result
MAACO BOWL
At Las Vegas
Boise State 26 Utah 3
Tonight's game
HAWAII BOWL
At Honolulu
Hawaii (10-3) vs. Tulsa (9-3), 8 p.m.

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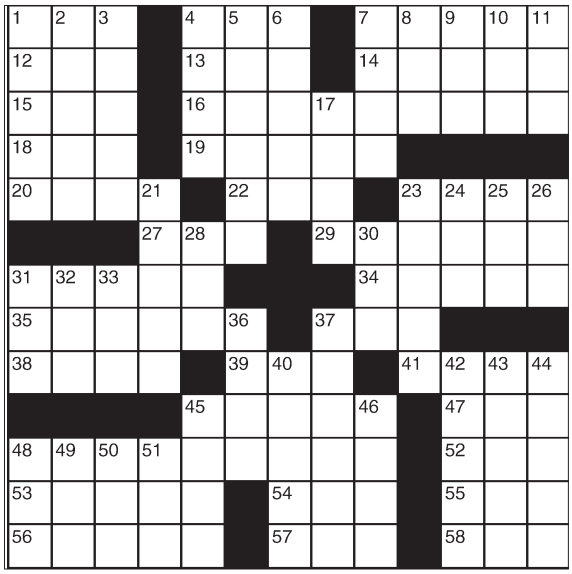
Crossword



Across

1 Height of fashion?
4 "Le Coq —"
7 Examinations
12 Fuss
13 Man-mouse link
14 Places in the heart
15 Sportscaster Scully
16 Winter weather factor
18 Mel of baseball lore
19 Opposite of blanco (Sp.)
20 At the home of (Fr.)
22 Keanu's role in "The Matrix"
23 Our heaviest president
27 Feedbag tidbit
29 Major fear
31 Topple
34 In two places
35 Japanese emperor
37 Hot tub
38 Rid of rind
39 Multipurpose truck
41 Wild and crazy
45 Argument
47 Miler Sebastian
48 Sculpted jingler
52 Hr. fraction
53 Where the action is
54 Plead
55 Superlative ending
56 Auto style
57 Mag. staffers
58 Red or Black

Down

1 Destruction
2 Gloria Stivic's mom
3 Three-card con
4 This way
5 East
6 Gamut
7 Mexican entree
8 Biblical verb suffix
9 — Lanka
10 Up to
11 Mule of song
17 Let fall
21 Of a region
23 November birthstone
24 Lawyers' org.
25 Evergreen type
26 Body art, for short
28 Supplement
30 Fortune
31 Ref
32 Chart format
33 — out a living
36 "That hurts!"
37 Joined by sewing
40 Clan
42 High spots
43 Din
44 Meddler
45 Read bar codes
46 Cribbage scorekeepers
48 Existed
49 Anger
50 The Simpsons' neighbor
51 "CSI" evidence

▶ Yesterday's answer

A	L	P		C	A	S	E		M	A	Y	O		
S	E	A		A	G	O	G		A	P	E	X		
P	A	L	I	S	A	D	E		R	E	T	E		
		P	O	P		A	S	P	I	R	I	N		
P	L	A	N	E	T		T	U	T					
R	I	B		R	I	P		P	A	P	A	L		
O	L	L	A		N	O	W		L	A	M	A		
S	T	E	L	A		D	O	H		L	O	T		
			F	L	U		K	I	B	O	S	H		
C	U	R	R	E	N	T		J	A	M				
O	G	E	E		P	A	L	A	T	I	N	E		
B	L	E	D		E	P	I	C		N	A	M		
S	I	L	O		G	E	E	K		O	P	S		

Sudoku

2	4						7	6
			6		5			
6		8				9		4
		2	3		1	4		
	9						8	
		6	7		9	2		
7		9				3		2
			9		7			
8	5						1	9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	3	8	6	7	2	5	1	9
7	5	1	8	3	9	6	4	2
9	2	6	1	5	4	8	3	7
5	7	4	9	6	1	2	8	3
2	8	9	7	4	3	1	5	6
6	1	3	5	2	8	7	9	4
3	6	2	4	1	5	9	7	8
1	9	7	3	8	6	4	2	5
8	4	5	2	9	7	3	6	1

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Devin...."If I could give you one thing in life, I would give you the ability to see yourself through my eyes, only then would you realize how special you are to me..." **TOOTHFAIRY**

merry christmas i love you Shyla Boudreau lets try to work this out and grow into a bigger family love **OLUWA**

Nadia, You are the octopus on my muffin. Bulbasaur to my pikachu. Protector of my struggling 16 yr. old girl. Beloved blanket thief and much more. You are my faith made manifest that the world wants me to be happy and every day I love you more. **TIGER**

I would like to send a big kiss to my special gal Bernice, you the most amazing women I have ever known, with a smile brighter than any pearl and a heart bigger and sweeter than any chocolate bar. **LOVE DON DIEGO**

A look at the weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Min -10° Max 1°	Min 12° Max 3°	Min -5° Max 6°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Others can be in a downbeat mood if they so wish but you don't see the point. Whatever problems you may have in your life they can wait a few days until you are ready to deal with them.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Is a partner or loved one telling you lies? Put your doubts and differences aside and make the most of the festive season.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Someone whose support you tend to rely on will be difficult to get hold of today, but you don't need them. You have everything it takes to make the best of your current situation.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may think you can break the rules and get away with it and, who knows, maybe you can – but is it worth the risk. If it goes wrong the atmosphere over the holiday period will be frosty to say the least.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Your logic circuits may tell you that certain things are not possible but at this time of year miracles are possible. You may not entirely believe that but act as if you do and it's quite likely you will work wonders.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 There is no point making a fuss about something you don't have the power to change. It's no big deal. Put it out of your head.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 It might be wise to keep your opinions to yourself over the next couple of days, especially if you want a peaceful festive break.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Everyone makes mistakes – yes, even a Scorpio – so don't beat yourself up about something you got wrong. Compared to most people you get things right more often than not, so forgive yourself.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Why do you impose so many limits on yourself? Why do you have to be perfect all the time? Whatever the reason (assuming there is a reason) cut yourself some slack today.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You may be extraordinarily ambitious but even you can ease off a bit at this time of year. In fact, if you relax physically and mentally over the next few days you'll come up with some great ideas.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Don't worry if you find it hard to concentrate today. At this time of year you have the perfect excuse to let your mind wander – there's just so much going on.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Don't worry if you find it hard to concentrate today. At this time of year you have the perfect excuse to let your mind wander – there's just so much going on. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

THOMAS LOHNES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

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Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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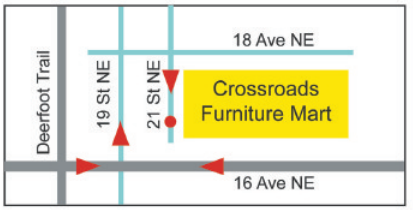

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